

14 July 52

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: ARTICHOKÉ Cases, June 1952, [redacted]

1. Between 4 June 1952 and 18 June 1952, an I&SO team, composed of Messrs. [redacted] and [redacted], I&SO Staff Officers, and Mr. [redacted], I&SO consultant, applied ARTICHOKÉ techniques to two operational cases in a safe house near [redacted]. Dr. [redacted], psychiatrist and consultant to the Agency Medical Staff, and Dr. [redacted], surgeon attached to the Medical Staff, represented the Medical Staff in connection with this work and handled the medical and psychiatric problems connected with this work.

2. Although requests were made in the field for additional subjects, only two subjects were handled at this time. Both of these individuals could be classed as experienced, professional type agents and suspected of working for Soviet Intelligence.

3. In each case, a psychiatric-medical cover was used to bring the ARTICHOKÉ techniques into action. In the first case, light dosages of drugs coupled with hypnosis were used to induce a complete hypnotic trance. This trance was held for approximately one hour and forty minutes of interrogation with a subsequent total amnesia produced by post-hypnotic suggestion. In the second case (an individual of much higher intelligence than the first), a deep hypnotic trance was reached after light medication. This was followed by an interrogation lasting for well over an hour. However, a partial amnesia only was obtained at this time, although a total amnesia was obtained for the major part of this test. Since further interrogation was desired, a second test was made on this individual in which the ARTICHOKÉ technique of using a straight medication was employed. On this test, highly successful results were obtained in that a full interrogation lasting two hours and fifteen minutes was produced, part of which included a remarkable regression. During this regression, the subject actually "relived" certain past activities of his life, some dating back fifteen years while, in addition, the subject totally accepted Mr. [redacted] (the case officer and interpreter at this time) as an old trusted and beloved personal friend whom the subject had known in years past in Georgia, USSR. Total amnesia was apparently achieved for the entire second test on this case.

4. Chemicals used in the hypnotic approach were very light and carefully controlled dosages of sodium pentothal. In the second case, on the second test, where drugs alone were used, heavy dosages of sodium pentothal were coupled with the stimulant Desoxyn with outstanding success. In connection with the above cases, it should be noted that both subjects were Russian speaking and spoke no English, yet hypnosis was obtained by Mr. [redacted], a professional hypnotist, using an inexperienced interpreter who was directed in English by Mr. [redacted] through a complex electronic intercom system.

5. For a matter of record, the case officers involved in both cases expressed themselves to the effect that the ARTICHOK operations were entirely successful and team members felt that the tests demonstrated conclusively the effectiveness of the combined chemical-hypnotic technique in such cases. In both cases, the subjects talked clearly and at great length and furnished information which the case officers considered extremely valuable.

6. For matter of record, hypnotic inductions were made by Mr. [redacted], who directed and controlled Mr. [redacted] (a case officer), who enacted the difficult role of interpreter-hypnotist in an excellent manner. Technical arrangements, which were extremely complex and included multiple intercommunication systems and full tape recordings, were handled by Mr. [redacted] of INSO. Security arrangements, which involved a double guard system and transportation and control of the subjects, were handled by the office of Mr. [redacted] Security Officer [redacted], under the personal direction of Mr. [redacted], and were outstanding in every respect. Case officers were Mr. [redacted], who speaks fluent Russian and acted also as general interpreter (Case #1), and Mr. [redacted] (Case #2). Both were exceptionally well grounded and very helpful. The medical and psychiatric work and cover, which was a vital part of the operation, was perfectly executed by Doctors [redacted] and [redacted] of the Agency Medical Staff.

7. A full technical report of the ARTICHOK operations is being prepared by this office and will be completed in the immediate future. If, however, additional details are desired by your office, INSO will be pleased to furnish them immediately.

Colonel, GSC  
Security Officer, CIA